**Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process**

**What's an EIS?**
An EIS is a comprehensive study that provides the public and decision-makers with key information on the alternatives under consideration and their potential impacts to the built, natural, and human environments within the project study area.

A Tier 1 EIS includes:
- **Broad, high-level environmental review**
- **“Desktop analysis” based on available mapping, information**
- **Physical (footprint) effects based on corridor alternatives**

**Scoping Process**

Notice of Intent (NOI) published, initiating a formal scoping process.

**Draft EIS**

Draft EIS approved by Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

**Public Comment Period**

45-day period to receive public and agency input.

**Final EIS/Record of Decision**

Combined Final EIS/Record of Decision (ROD) will identify the Preferred Corridor Alternative.

**FRA publishes Notice of Availability in Federal Register**

Analysis will be refined during Tier 2 studies.